

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

USUN NEW YORK 372

UNCLAS MOGADISCIO 1429

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR SO CB

SUBJ: "ROYAL CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT" FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS
MOGADISCIO

1. SOMALI MEDIA GAVE MODERATE COVERAGE TO THE VISIT SEPT. 15-18 OF SARIN CHHAK, FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE ROYAL CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT OF PRINCE SIHANOUK. HE WAS RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT SIAD, CURRENT CHAIRMAN OF OAU, ON SEPT. 17.

2. MEDIA CARRIED FULL ARRIVAL STATEMENT OF "COMRADE CHHAK", INCLUDING SOME DETAIL ABOUT CAMBODIAN STRUGGLE AGAINST "IMPERIALISM", THOUGH ONLY MENTIONING US BY NAME IN PASSING REFERENCE TO LON NOL DESIRE FOR MORE "AMERICAN AID". STATEMENT CONCLUDED THAT "CAMBODIAN PEOPLE IS DETERMINED TO CONTINUE STRUGGLE UNTIL COMPLETE LIBERATION OF THEIR COUNTRY." COVERAGE OF MEETING WITH SIAD WAS RATHER BRIEF, BRACKETING IT WITH SEPARATE CALL ON SIAD BY VISITING CONGOLESE FOREIGN MINISTER. SIAD AND CHHAK REPORTED AS HAVING "DISCUSSED THE VICTORIES BEING ACHIEVED BY THE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS OF AFRICA AND ASIA", WITH CHHAK BRIEFING SIAD ON "LATEST DEVELOPMENTS OF SITUATION IN CAMBODIA AND THE BRILLIANT SUCCESSES BEING SCORED BY CAMBODIAN
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NATIONALISTS UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF PRINCE NORODOM SIHANOUK."

3. CHHAK WAS SEEN OFF AT AIRPORT BY SOMALI FOREIGN MINISTER. DESCRIBED AS BEING ON HIS THIRD VISIT TO SOMALIA, HE WAS QUOTED AS BEING "AMAZED BY THE TREMENDOUS PROGRESS OF THE SOMALI PEOPLE SINCE HIS FIRST VISIT", AND AS PRAISING "SOMALIA'S CONSISTENT PROGRESSIVE POLICIES IN SUPPORT OF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN AFRICA, ASIA, AND LATIN AMERICA".

4. PUBLICITY ON CHHAK VISIT GENERALLY GAVE GREATER EMPHASIS TO SIAD'S POSITION AS CHIEF OF SOMALIA, RATHER THAN TO HIS CURRENT CHAIRMANSHIP OF OAU.

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Disposition History: n/a
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